



Rt Hon Justine Greening MP  
Secretary of State

## CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

### Financing for Development Plenary speech

#### Introduction

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen.

We are here in Addis at the first of a series of critical summits on development, climate change and trade. Never has so much been at stake in Addis or in New York in September. They are the first step, success hinges on the actions that all of us take afterwards.

#### Global challenges

There has never been a more important time to get this right – it's crunch time for this planet. This is a momentous time. Our decisions will make or break our and our children's futures.

Today's generation of young people is the largest in history, we're reaching 'peak youth'. And peak youth has got to equal peak growth. The World Bank estimates at least 600million people will enter the job market in the next 15 years, mainly in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. If these young people can have productive work then income levels in these countries could rise faster than at any other time. That must be our ambition – jobs for these young people so they fulfil their potential and can be part of their country's development.

We are seeing many countries successfully grow and go down the path of development, but we're also seeing fragile states getting left behind. Conflict, as we're seeing in Syria, puts development in reverse. If left

unchecked, climate change will undo much of the progress we've made

## **Conclusion**

We have an unprecedented opportunity – for the first time in history a world without poverty is in sight.

We have a strong draft outcome document o ha(l)--16(u40TJ 0 Tc h.017 0 T)-5.1p-5